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Reports from Calcutta—Cholera and plague mortality.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, August 25 and 26, as follows:

During the week ended August 20, 1904, there were 3 deaths from plague and 4 deaths from cholera in Calcutta.

In Bengal, during the week ended August 13, 1904, there were 475 cases and 369 deaths from plague. In India, during the week ended August 6, 1904, there were 6,660 cases and 4,794 deaths from plague.

Vaccination in the Punjab.

During the year 1903-4, there was a considerable increase in the number of vaccinations in the Punjab, the total within that period being 685,105, an increase of 17,561 over the previous twelve months. The increase was confined to fresh cases, revaccinations showing a decrease of 4,017. It is thought by some that the fluctuation in revaccination might have been due to a want of system, in districts, on the part of the vaccinating staff.

The prevalence of plague in the Punjab does not appear to have affected the primary vaccinations, as indicated by the above increase; but it is probable enough that a falling off of over 4,000 in the revaccinations may be attributable, to a degree, to plague. The number of males revaccinated was about double that of females, the reason given being that parents objected to their young girls being seen by the vaccinators.

It is interesting to note that in the Punjab, as well as in Burma, the spread of vaccination has not been attended with a decrease in the death rate from smallpox. The rate last year was 0.2 higher than in 1902 and more than double the average rate of the previous five years. However, in Kangra, which is said to be the best-vaccinated district, the lowest death rate is recorded; also in the Delhi district, where vaccination is satisfactory, the percentage mortality is low. And yet in the districts of Rohtak and Gujranwala, which leave much to be desired in the matter of vaccination, the death return from smallpox is low.

ITALY.

Reports from Naples—Inspection of vessels.—Beriberi at Port Arthur—Summary of plague in Egypt—Cholera in Persia—Russian quarantine measures on Persian frontier—Vaccination in Egypt—Public health in Italy.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Eager reports, September 5 and 12, as follows: During the week ended September 3, 1904, the following-named ship was inspected at Naples:

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of large baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.	Number of steerage passengers recommended for rejection.
Aug. 30	Romanic.....	Boston	495	170	780	21